

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT O 02784 131156Z

15

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
----- 120659

P R 122020Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8489

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 2784

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RQ, TD, XL, EFIN, US

SUBJECT: TRINIDADIAN INITIATIVE ON CONSULTATION WITH  
PUERTO RICO

REF: A) STATE 258165; B) PORT OF SPAIN 2700

1. TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO PRIME MINISTER ERIC WILLIAMS  
CALLED ME TO HIS OFFICE NOV 12 TO INFORM ME OF THE  
RESULT OF HIS CONSULTATIONS WITH HIS CABINET COLLEAGUES  
REGARDING THE PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS WITH PUERTO RICO  
(REFTELS).

2. WILLIAMS SAID HIS COLLEAGUES HAD WARMLY SUPPORTED  
HIS INITIATIVE TO FIND A WAY TO BRING PUERTO RICO INTO  
THE CARIBBEAN AND CARICOM DIALOGUE, BUT THEY HAD  
COLLECTIVELY COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT BEST MANNER  
IN WHICH TO BEGIN WOULD BE FOR SENIOR MEMBER OR MEMBERS  
OF CGPR GOVERNOR'S CABINET TO COME TO PORT OF SPAIN FOR  
DISCUSSIONS. WILLIAMS SAID THAT IF THE GOTT INFORMAL  
INVITATION WERE ACCEPTED, HIS SENIOR CABINET MINISTER,  
MAHBIR (INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE) AND PETROLEUM AND MINES)  
WOULD BE PRIMARY GOTT CONTACT BUT THAT MINISTERS JOSEPH  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT O 02784 131156Z

(EXTERNAL AFFAIRS) AND PREVATT (FINANCE) WOULD ALSO BE

INVOLVED. PREVATT'S ROLE WOULD PRINCIPALLY BE CONCERNING CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK MEMBERSHIP.

3. THE PRIME MINISTER ASKED THAT USG CONVEY HIS INFORMAL INVITATION TO GCPR FOR A CONSULTATION IN PORT OF SPAIN TO "DISCUSS POSSIBLE AREAS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN PUERTO RICO AND THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY."

4. WILLIAMS APOLOGIZED FOR THE REVERSAL OF HIS ORIGINAL NOTION TO SEND MAHABIR TO SAN JUAN, BUT PLED THE URGENCY WITH WHICH HE REQUIRED MAHABIR'S PRESENCE IN TRINIDAD IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO ASSIST IN FINALIZING THE IMPORTANT ELECTION-YEAR BUDGET. HE SAID HE DID NOT FEEL THE PUERTO RICO CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BE INDEFINITELY DELAYED IF THE GCPR WERE INTERESTED, AND THE BUDGET DISCUSSIONS WERE KEEPING KEY GOTT MINISTERS AT HOME FOR AWHILE.

5. WILLIAMS CONFIRMED HIS EARLIER TENTATIVE DECISION (POS 2634) THAT TRINIDAD WOULD REQUEST ITS CARICOM PARTNERS TO DEFER DECISION ON THE PUERTO RICAN CDB APPLICATION. HE STATED THAT HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND SOME CARICOM STATES' ADAMANT OPPOSITION TO PUERTO RICAN MEMBERSHIP WHILE THEY WERE ENTERTAINING APPLICATIONS FROM AS FAR AWAY AS PORTUGAL. HOPEFULLY, THE CONSULTATIONS PROPOSED WOULD ASSIST IN DEVISING AN ACCEPTABLE FORMULA FOR PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION.

6. IF DEPARTMENT PRECEIVES NO OBJECTION, REQUEST SUBSTANCE OF THIS MESSAGE BE CONVEYED TO GCPR.  
RICH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MEMBER ADMISSIONS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PORTO02784  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750395-0494  
**From:** PORT OF SPAIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751150/aaaabsme.tel  
**Line Count:** 92  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 258165, 75 PORT OF SPAIN 2700  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TRINIDADIAN INITIATIVE ON CONSULTATION WITH PUERTO RICO  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EFIN, RQ, TD, XL, US, ECLA, CARICOM, (WILLIAMS, ERIC E)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006